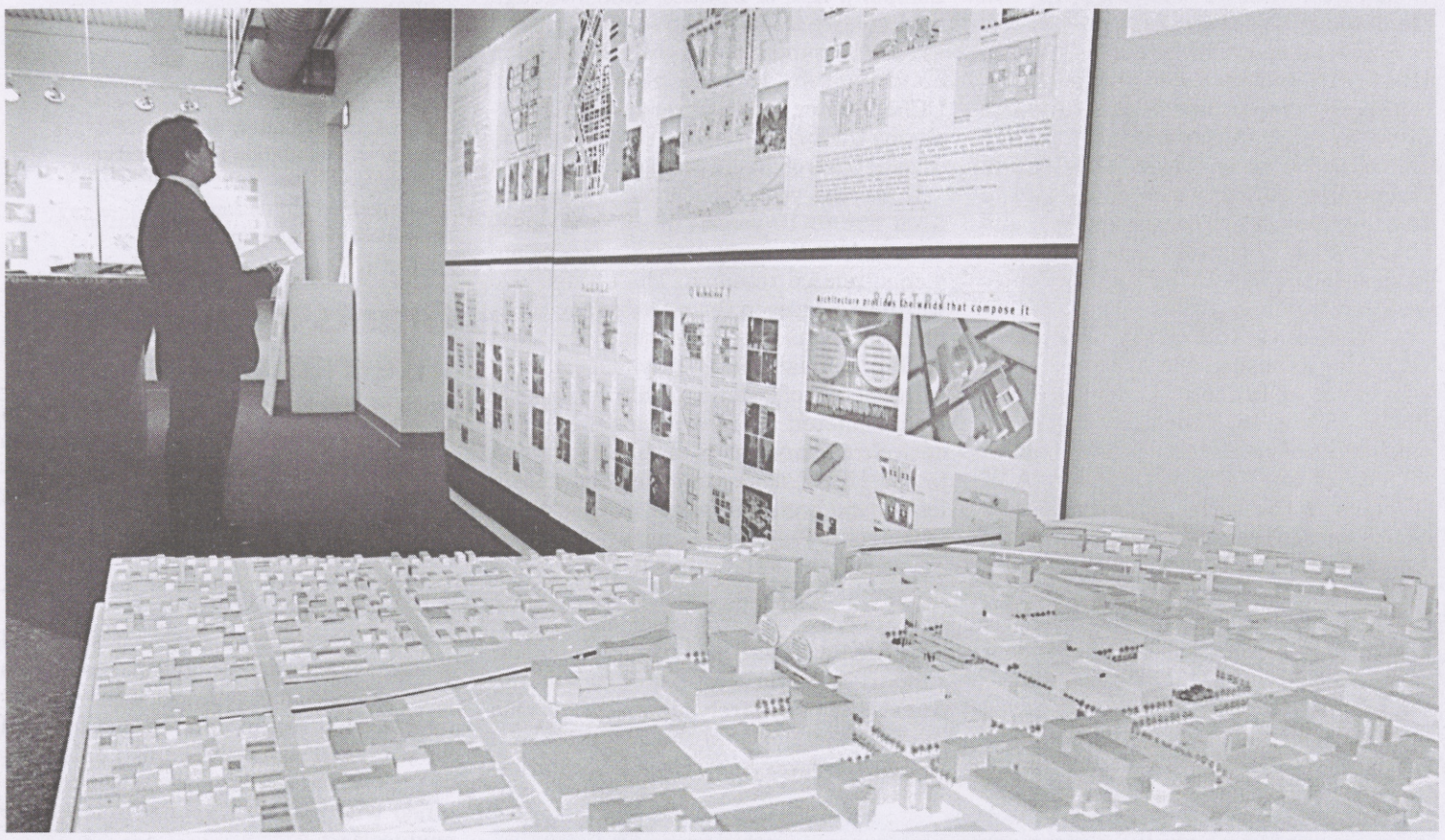
UCSF Medsounds Newsbreak

Weekly News for the UCSF Community VOL. 12, NO. 30 OCTOBER 28, 1997



Chris T. Anderson

UCSF faculty and staff can register their opinion on five Mission Bay designs by filling out a comment form available in the MedSci lobby. Above, Steve Neuberger, director of UCSF Community and Governmental Relations, checks out the designs at the American Institute of Architects.

INSIDE

2 UCSF garners more than $116 million in private support

3 Special souvenir insert salutes UCSF Medical Center on eve of merger with Stanford

7 Researchers make advances in understanding pain

Employees launch into the merger

By ANDY EVANGELISTA

When Ann Shaw heads home for the weekend Friday she will still be a University employee. When she returns Monday to her office in Medical Records, where she's worked the last 30 years, Shaw will be on the staff of UCSF Stanford Health Care.

The marriage of two of the leading medical centers in the country becomes official November 1, after nearly two years of courting, contention and finally contracting. But there will be little fanfare that day — no banner waving, sign unveiling or "end of an era, beginning of a new chapter" speeches. Those will come later.

For Shaw and many of the 5,000 UCSF Medical Center staff who will become part of a new blended family, Monday will mostly be important business as usual — and that's providing or supporting patient care. Shaw, a supervisor in Medical Records, does not expect to change any of her work or personal habits. She'll come to the office at the usual time, perhaps have lunch in the cafeteria, see her longtime UCSF friends — both Medical Center and University staff — and help run a department that documents some half-million patient visits and hospital stays a year. Shaw easily decided to accept the UCSF Stanford Health Care job offer — 99 percent of the 11,000 at both campuses did so — and

(See **Launch** on page 2)

Architects unveil Mission Bay models for public comment

Models for the proposed "signature" building for UCSF Mission Bay are on view to the public in a competition among five teams of finalists who developed plans for the entire 43-acre site.

The exhibit on the sixth floor of the American Institute of Architects (AIA), located at 130 Sutter St., will be in place through Oct. 30. Viewing hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday, Wednesday and Friday and from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday.

UCSF employees will have another opportunity to make their architectural feelings known today, from noon until 1 p.m. in HSW 303, following a brief slide presentation of the five proposals.

Presentations by each of the five design competition finalists will take place on Saturday, Nov. 1 from 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. in the Schwab Room of the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art at 151 Third St. The models also will be on display, having been moved from the AIA building the previous day. Final jury deliberations will take place on Sunday, Nov. 2 with the winner selected the same day and announced Monday, Nov. 3 at the Palace Hotel.

For those who are unable to visit the AIA or MOMA venues, the UCSF Public Affairs department has created a display in the lobby of the Medical Sciences building. Pictures of the models also are available on Daybreak, UCSF's electronic daily, at www.ucsf.edu/daybreak. Members of the campus community are urged to fill out the architectural comments form and leave them in the marked "response" boxes at the AIA exhibit room, MOMA or UCSF's Medical Sciences lobby.

Tree planting marks 5,000 kidney transplants

Four hundred people attended a tree-planting ceremony in Golden Gate Park on Oct. 18 to honor the lives of kidney transplant patients and the heroes that made it all possible. The event also marked the 5,000th kidney transplant at UCSF.

Transplant survivors, donor families, UCSF doctors and nurses, as well as San Francisco Mayor Willie Brown and Oakland Mayor Elihu Harris, turned out for the planting of five Australian Tea trees.

Proclamations were read from Brown, Governor Pete Wilson and Vice President Al Gore.

UCSF has committed to planting 5,000 trees over the course of the next five years throughout the Bay Area. The tree-planting will eventually culminate in a grove in Golden Gate Park, designed to honor the lives of recipients and donors.

Tom Wachs

Lorraine Mattos, UCSF's longest surviving recipient of a cadaver kidney, chats with Mayor Willie Brown before she plants a tree.

Lorraine Mattos of Jacksonville, Ore., who is UCSF's longest surviving recipient of a cadaver kidney, attended the ceremony. Initially told she had just three months to live, Mattos, a retired teacher, has had few health problems since getting her new kidney in 1969. Before the transplant, Mattos was unable to walk from her car to the classroom without stopping to rest. Today, she is an avid skier and tennis player and enjoys hiking and overseas travel with her husband George.

Recipients and donor families at the ceremony also honored the courage of patients who face long waiting periods for a new organ. Today, more than 37,000 patients remain on the national waiting list for a donor kidney, according to figures from the United Network for Organ Sharing, the organization responsible for organ distribution. Last year 1,814 Americans died waiting for a kidney transplant.

Nancy Ascher, professor and vice chair of surgery, directs the kidney transplant program, which performs more than 200 transplants a year and is a pioneer in innovative surgical techniques and a world leader in medical research aimed at minimizing organ rejection.

UCSF begins season of sharing

UCSF employees are urged to dig deep into their pockets this fall as the campus kicks off its annual campaign to help others in need.

Faculty and staff should receive their gift-giving packets informing them about the Employee Community Campaign, to be held now through Nov. 7, this week. This is an opportunity for the campus community to lend financial support to the many nonprofit agencies and organizations that provide a wide array of social services.

Those who contribute to the campaign will automatically be entered in a raffle. Campus Travel has donated a round-trip airfare for two on American Airlines, anywhere the airline flies in the continental US, Mexico or the Caribbean. The raffle winner, to be announced in December, will also receive a $250 package to use on their vacation.

"I encourage you to make a contribution," says Chancellor Haile Debas. "United Way continues to work hard in our community, making a positive difference in so many lives and families. Already, 72 UCSF campus leaders have made early donations totaling $21,000. If every UCSF employee participates, we can make a significant impact in our community."

Pam Satterwhite, program director of the Mount Zion Violence Prevention Program and recipient of an $80,000 grant, shares the impact this financial gift has made to her project. "I see the impact of our United Way dollars through our families' small but courageous steps to find their roads out of violent behaviors, whether as abusers themselves or as survivors of abuse. The lives of over 40 families have been dramatically and positively altered by the public donations that have come to us through the United Way Community Impact Fund. Please continue to give."

Employees may choose to contribute to the Community Impact Fund, or to any nonprofit agency, federation, or health care service agencies at UCSF, such as the UCSF Child Care Study Center, UCSF or Mount Zion hospital auxiliaries or the California Poison Control System.

For more information about this annual fundraiser, call Katherine Riordan, campaign coordinator in the Public Affairs department at 476-0729.

Private support tops $116 million last fiscal year

By LORDELYN P. DEL ROSARIO

UCSF received more than $116 million in private support from individuals, foundations, corporations, and organizations for health sciences research, education and clinical programs in the 1996-97 fiscal year.

The $116,315,522 total marks what has become a steady increase in private support for UCSF during the past decade. UCSF is the only campus within the nine-campus UC system whose private support during this period has shown constant increases from year to year.

A top contributor was J.S. Lee, a 1997 UCSF Medal Award winner, who pledged $200,000 to the UCSF School of Dentistry's $5 million Clinics Modernization Campaign. Funds raised will help provide new state-of-the-art units and chairs at the Parnassus clinic, San Francisco General Hospital Community Dental Clinic, and Buchanan Street Dental Clinic.

J.S. Lee established the Lee Hysan Dental Scholars Program, a joint project of the UCSF School of Dentistry, the three leading schools of stomatology in China, the government of the People's Republic of China, and the Lee Hysan Foundation. Lee's guidance of the program has added a new dimension to UCSF graduate dentistry endeavors and established an important source of new scientific and educational leadership in the schools of China.

UCSF Foundation member Edward Ageno pledged a total of $5 million for leukemia research and patient care. Ageno, who died this year, was retired and former owner/president of Galileo-Capri Salami Inc. His pledge will be divided as follows: $1.5 million will be designated for the Curtis Ries Distinguished Professorship in Hematology/Oncology; $1.5 million will establish an endowed Leukemia Clinical Research Fund that will provide UCSF leukemia researchers with funds to bring research into practice; $1 million will establish an endowed Fellowship in Hematology/Oncology that will aid in training new clinician-researchers; and another $1 million will name a laboratory suite in the new UCSF Cancer Center research building.

A.W. (Tom) and Mary Margaret Clausen established the A.W. and Mary Margaret Clausen Distinguished Professorship in Neurology last year, with a gift of more than $2.5 million. A director of the UCSF Foundation, A.W. Clausen is the retired chairman and chief executive officer of Bank of America Corporation and its wholly owned subsidiary, Bank of America N.T. & S.A. He serves as honorary director of both boards. He is also former president of the World Bank. The professorship — the highest University honor bestowed upon a faculty member — will support Alzheimer's disease research and patient care and will be held by a clinician-scientist who will seek to advance the understanding of the genetics and cell biology of the disease.

UCSF's new Center for the Neurobiology of Addiction was created by an initial gift this year of $500,000 from the Park Water Company, Inc., of Downey, Calif., through the initiative of Henry H. Wheeler Jr., president. The company has pledged a total of $5 million for 10 years to support the UCSF Center, in which scientists are exploring through innovative research the biological basis of drug addiction.

In its first year, the Center will provide from five to 10 grants of up to $50,000 each to UCSF researchers to conduct addiction-related research. The Center also will offer courses in the neurobiology of addiction, sponsor regular seminars, and hold an annual scientific symposium—all with the goal of fostering addiction science.

Radiometer, an international medical device company, has pledged $1.1 million to the UCSF department of anesthesia for an endowed fellowship in anesthesia research. The Radiometer-John W. Severinghaus Fellowship in Anesthesia Research, named in honor of Radiometer and Severinghaus, professor emeritus of anesthesia at UCSF, provides crucial support to promising young scientists. Anesthesia research laboratories also have been named the Radiometer-John W. Severinghaus Anesthesia laboratories.

Launch (from page 2)

carefully analyzed and selected her new benefits options. "I have peace of mind, now," she says.

Malcolm Oubre was 19 when he began working in Medical Records 21 years ago. He will remain a UCSF employee, but will continue to work side by side with his friend and supervisor, Shaw. He is one of the 1,200 who were eligible to retain UCSF employment and benefits and be "leased" to the new organization.

There will be some differences: Oubre's bimonthly UCSF payday will be Wednesdays, Shaw's on Fridays; he has a 403b, she'll have a 401k.

Oubre, who admits he was not too keen about the merger, says he expects the work situation, however, to be "status quo." Both Shaw and Oubre agree that managed care has shifted more patient care activity to the clinics and Medical Records is busier than ever. Together, they have seen many changes and progress in their years in the department — both remember the paper and pre-computer era when piles of records were carted throughout the hospitals and clinics — so the merger to them may be either a bump, or a smoothing out, in their long career roads here.

Betsy Workman, a 18-year UCSF nurse who schedules the 100-operating room nurses and technicians, will have to deal with such issues as holiday differences. The 19 leased employees in that unit, including Workman, for example, have the day after Thanksgiving as a holiday, while UCSF-Stanford workers may not. But on the frontlines of patient care, like the OR, they resolve those situations regularly.

"We all have the same goal to deliver safe and appropriate care," says Workman.

Around the Medical Center last week, the pre-merger mood ranged from some excitement and anxiety, to mum and indifferent. One employee admitted to being more enthused when Costco and Price Club merged a few years ago. A seven-year Medical Center employee, who preferred not to be named, had a "wait-and-see" attitude. "But I'm just happy, I still have a job," she says.

The merger, as promised months ago, indeed has resulted in relatively few jobs lost. Of more than 11,000 employees at both UCSF and Stanford medical centers, only 28 (10 at UCSF) were laid off.

While the recent weeks have been spent finalizing merger agreements and preparing for the shift to UCSF Stanford Health Care, a long list of questions will soon be answered: How will switchboard operators greet callers? Will birth certificates, after Oct. 31 read "UCSF Stanford" ? Will there be new scrubs with new logos?

Some have been answered: new UCSF Stanford employees can keep parking and vanpool privileges, as well as membership to the Millberry Union Gym. New nametags — the same for leased and UCSF Stanford employees — will be issued within the next couple of months. And in case employees are wondering — discount tickets to the Cal-Stanford Big Game is not a perk.

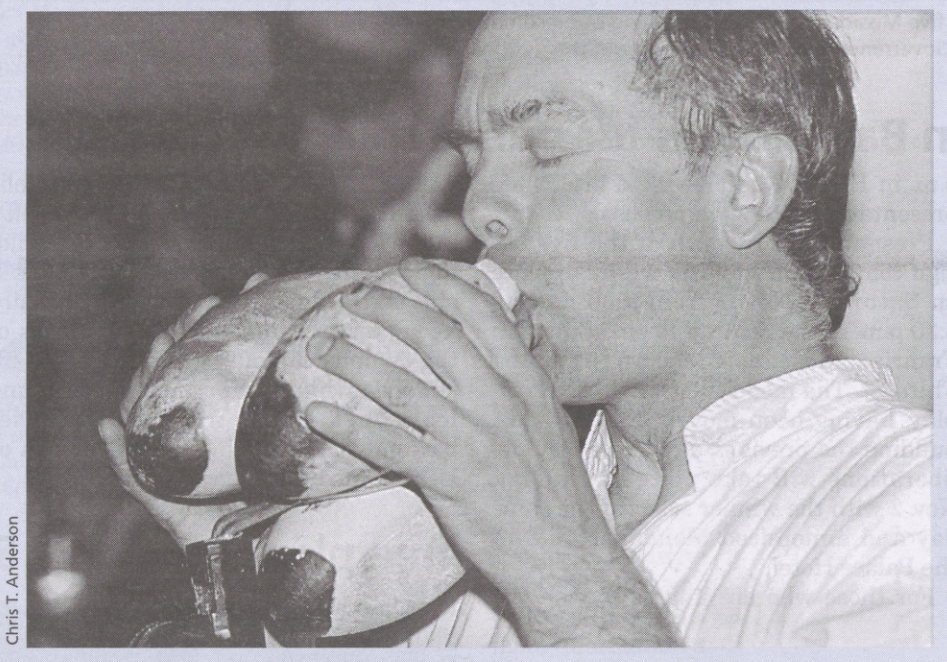
Behind the scenes, UCSF staff and UCSF staff on leave with UCSF Stanford Health Care have been working long hours to make the merger transition as smooth as possible for all affected employees.

Since April, Mary Henry, of the campus' Human Resources department, has headed a 25-person transition team, which includes staff from accounting, payroll, benefits, and other departments.

The complicated task of shifting payroll information so that merger employees can be paid on time and not have to complete paperwork for deductions and automatic deposits to their banks will be completed soon.

When merger decisions were made by UC and Stanford officials, Henry's staff was quick to offer information and counseling to hundreds of employees. Benefits sessions — aided by knowledgeable UC volunteers from various campus departments — met with individuals daily. Support groups and individual meetings, led by Lois Goodwill, PhD, of the Faculty Staff Assistance Program, will run through November for employees who have merger concerns. Now that employment and benefits decisions have been made, individual anxieties — such as possible travel to Stanford or placement in new work structures — are emerging, says Goodwill.

"Members of the transition team have handled the workload fabulously," says Henry.



Chris T. Anderson

Mist, music create magical night at Legion

The romantic scene set by mist, lighting and the sound of a distant foghorn created a magical feeling on Oct. 17 evening as 800 faculty, staff and students enjoyed the first-ever UCSF night at the California Palace of the Legion of Honor. Inside the magnificent museum, 55 performers, most of whom either work or study at UCSF, contributed to the atmosphere of music, artwork, food and wine. Alan Tower of Millberry Programs & Services, who played the Huacasilvado, a triple chambered wind instrument, entertains his colleagues.

Private Support

UCSF is pleased to acknowledge the following listing of gifts/pledges of $25,000 or more from individuals, corporations and foundations received October 5 - 18, 1997.

$1,000,000 or more
Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence G. Finch

$100,000 - $499,999
Howard Hughes Medical Institute
Jewish Community Federation of SF/Peninsula
The David and Lucile Packard Foundation
Albert L. and Janet A. Schultz

$25,000 - $99,999
Lillian E.I. and Dudley J. Aldous, '62
Genentech Foundation for Biomedical Sciences
James Irvine Foundation
The Liposome Company, Inc.

Grants available for international study

The National Security Education Program (NSEP) offers fellowships to graduate and professional school students to master their understanding of languages and cultures not commonly studied in the US.

The application deadline is Thursday, Jan. 15, 1998.

The fellowships are highly flexible and students design a program that meets their educational requirements and interests. Fellowship funds cannot be used for study of French or Spanish unless instruction is at an advanced level or combined with study of applied sciences or engineering.

Intensive language study must be the major component of the fellowship, but proposals may include other components, such as research or clinical experience. Fellowships will support projects lasting a minimum of one academic semester and a maximum of 24 months. Intensive summer language programs must be equivalent to an academic semester to be considered. Programs may begin no earlier than fall 1998 and no later than summer 1999.

NSEP encourages applications from students in the sciences and other fields that traditionally have not had an international focus. For applications, call 502-2962 or visit International Academics Programs, 145 Irving St., Suite 103.

UCSF Newsbreak

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Deadline for the next issue, to cover November 8–21, 1997, will be on **Wednesday, October 29.** Please send news to Lisa Cisneros at 476-3256 (cisnero@itsa.ucsf.edu) and calendar items to Nancy Heller at 476-8810 (nheller@itsa.ucsf. edu), all at Box 0462. Fax last-minute copy to 476-3541. For address and distribution changes, call C.J. Burleson at 476-6791.

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Acknowledging the rich history of the UCSF Medical Center

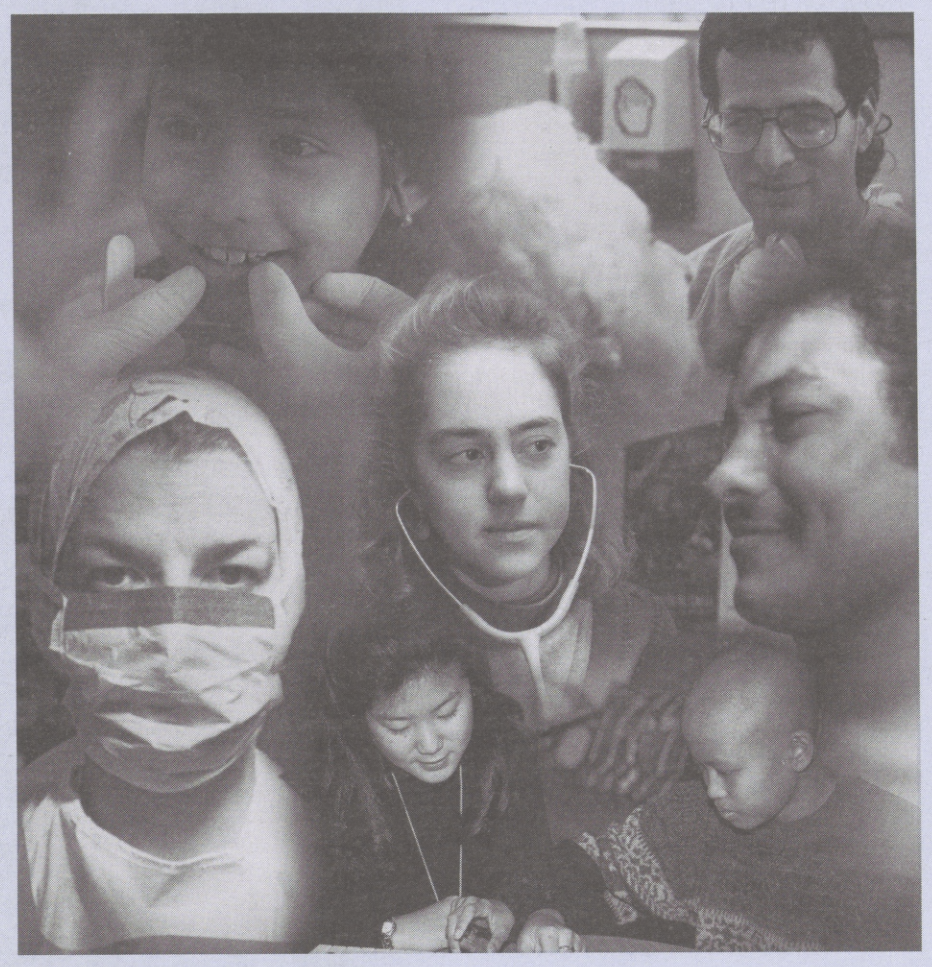
Memories and milestones mark 91 years of patient care

It began after an earthquake on the San Andreas fault and it will end because of an economic jolt to the health care marketplace. On Nov. 1, 1997, 91 years after a 30-bed, acute care ward was carved out of School of Medicine space to make way for the earthquake emergency, the UCSF Medical Center, including UCSF/Mount Zion, will become an anchor component of a new corporation, UCSF Stanford Health Care.

Although the academic medical center will remain an essential partner of the health science enterprise at UCSF, it will gradually — and appropriately — begin to develop its own culture and identity. Over time, there will be new heroes and new breakthroughs to celebrate and a UCSF Stanford Health Care history to write.

For this final edition of Medsounds, however, we thought a little UCSF nostalgia was in order. And we have culled our editorial and photo archives to bring you moments and milestones from the past that should remind all of us how important the Medical Center has been to advanced patient care — and UCSF history — and how much its continued success is key to our own.

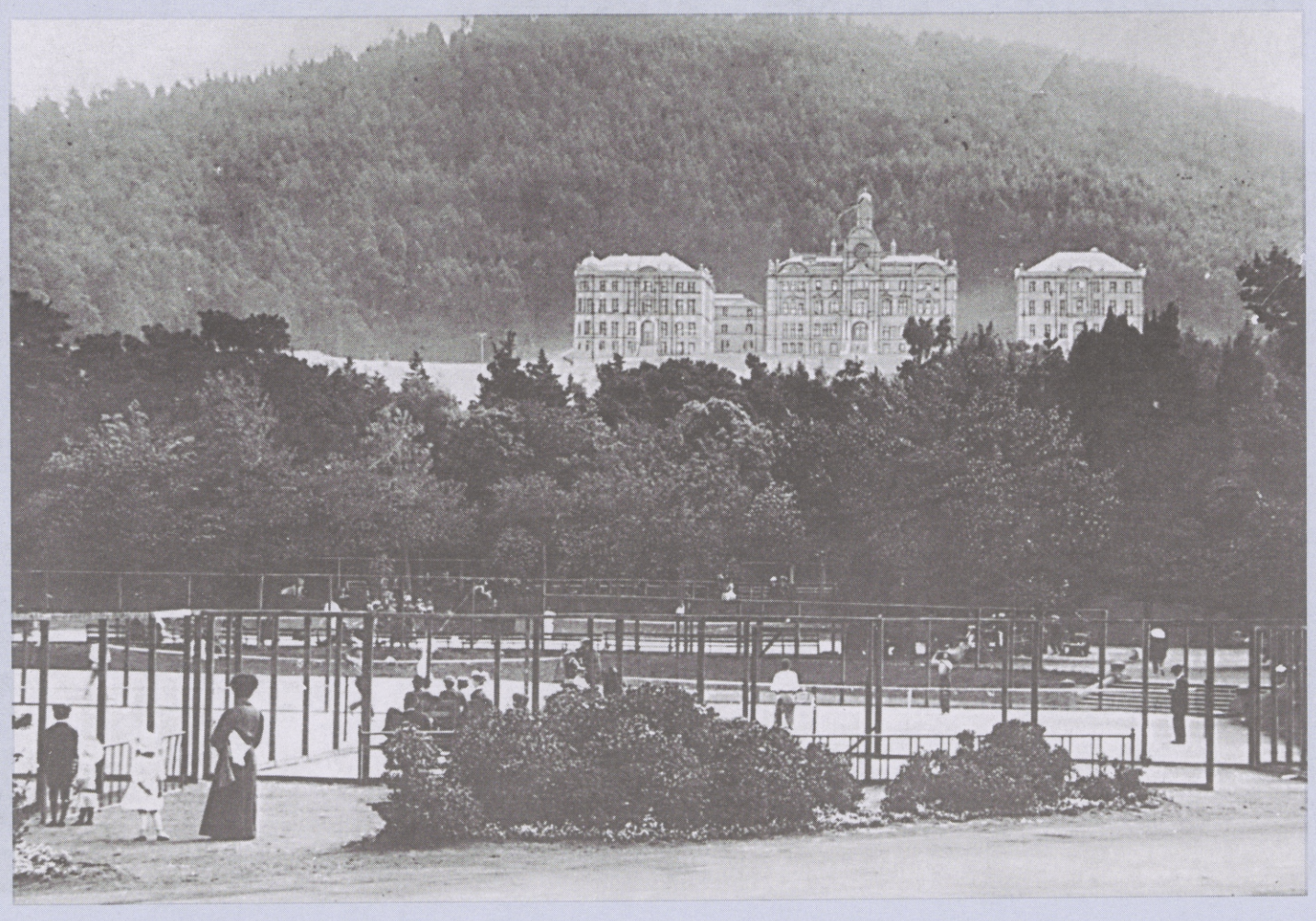
— Jeff Miller



Beginnings

RIGHT: The 1906 earthquake forced many displaced San Franciscans to take shelter in tents in Golden Gate Park. The temblor was a turning point that gave birth to patient care on the Parnassus campus.

BELOW: The view of the Affiliated Colleges on Mount Parnassus from Golden Gate Park, which featured turn-of-the-century tennis courts in the foreground.



UCSF Medical Center Timeline

1896-98 Affiliated Colleges, consisting of the Medical School, the College of Pharmacy and an Anthropology Museum open on Mt. Parnassus on land donated by former Mayor of San Francisco Adolph Sutro.

1906 30-bed acute-care ward created in the School of Medicine building to meet the earthquake emergency. A few weeks after the temblor, the preclinical departments of anatomy, physiology, and pathology are transferred to Berkeley to free up medical school space for a teaching hospital.

1913 Newborn nursery transferred out of obstetrics, the first medical school in the country to do so.

1915 Construction begins on a new university teaching hospital, funded entirely by private donations, at Third and Parnassus. It is completed two years later at a cost of $585,000.

1921 UC Regents reaffirm their decision of 1912 to keep the medical school in San Francisco and not transfer it to Berkeley.

1925 Child guidance clinic, the first of its kind in an American medical school, opens under the direction of Jean Walker.

1933-34 Clinics building added to the Parnassus campus at a cost of $818,000.

1938 UCSF pediatrician Mary Olney opens the first summer camp for diabetic children west of the Rockies.

1943 Langley Porter Neuropsychiatric Institute opens, San Francisco's first hospital and training center for professionals to improve mental health.

1954 Construction begins of the first phase of Medical Sciences building — more than 200,000 square feet of classrooms and teaching laboratories. Second phase construction begins four years later.

1955 Construction begins on a spartan 15-story Moffitt Hospital, a project that continues for the rest of the decade.

Clinical Care

FROM TOP, LEFT TO RIGHT:

A "health fair," circa 1916, offers advice on child-rearing, including sleeping accommodations for newborns: "The baby should not sleep in the same bed with the mother. This is dangerous as many babies have been smothered, or made sick. A bureau drawer or clothes basket makes an excellent bed for the baby if a crib is not to be had."

A nurse wears the traditional white mortarboard, the symbol of UCSF nurses in training.

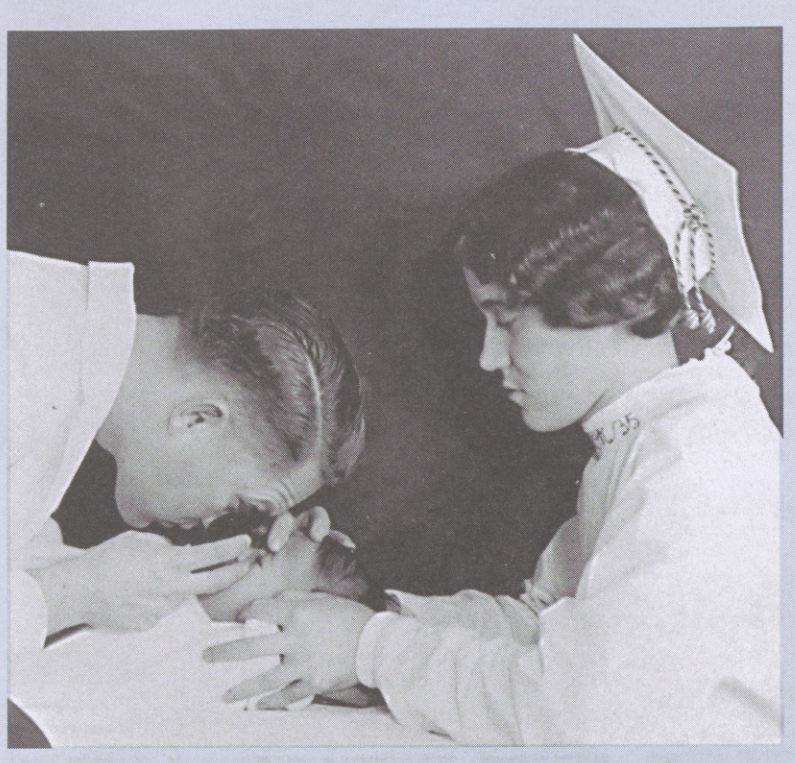
Enterprising engineer Paul K. Davis, left, president of the Pacific Roller Die Company in Hayward, designed and built this artificial heart in his spare time. He was assisted by UCSF physicians W. Carlyle Smail and Benson B. Roe, right, who implanted the device in this calf in 1972. Previously, Roe performed UCSF's first heart transplant.

In this seldom-seen photo by Ansel Adams, UCSF is immortalized as a clinical care center as a man enters a UCSF pediatric weighing room with twins in 1964.

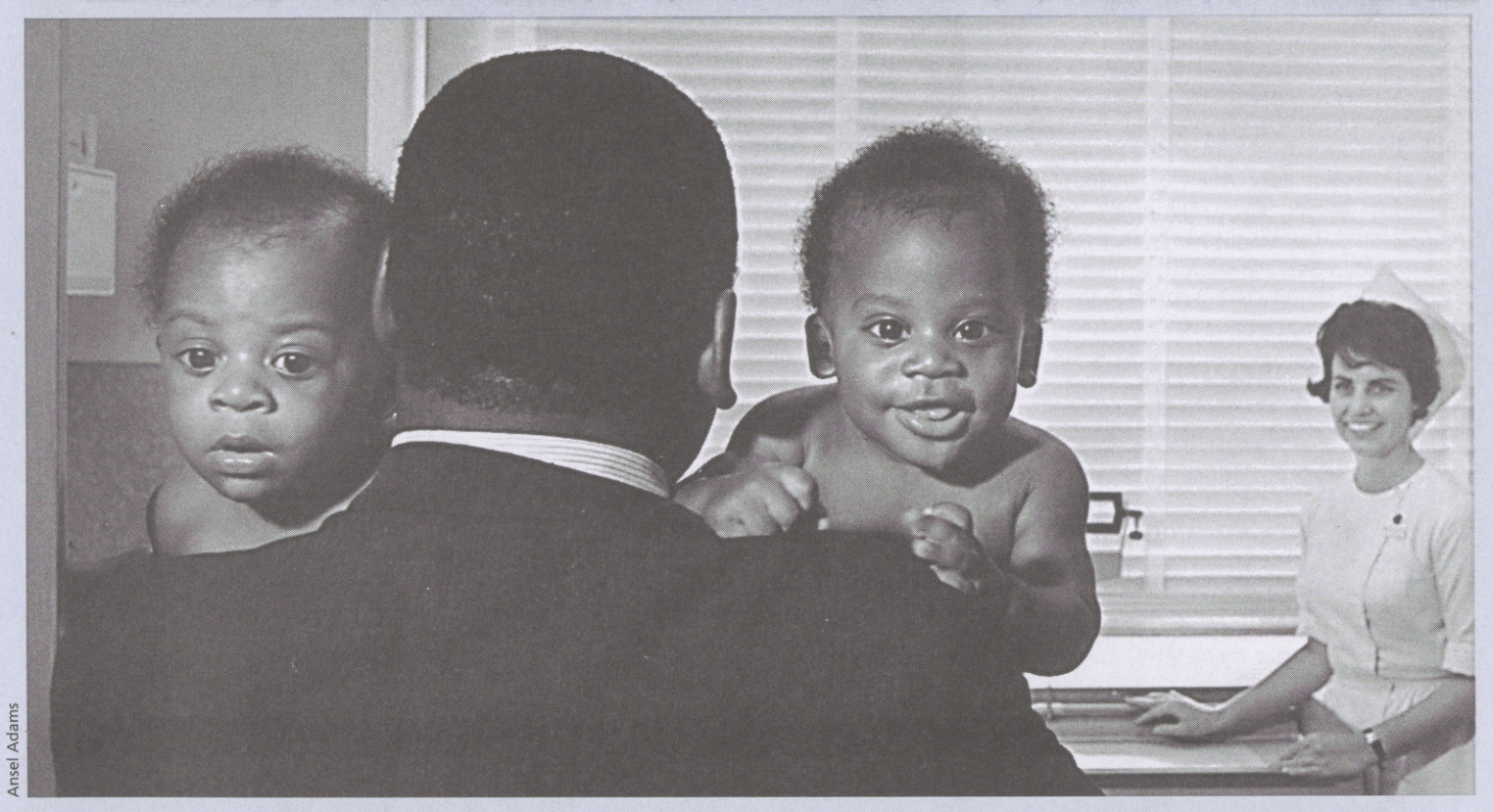
Technology has altered and improved patient care at UCSF, the patenting of magnetic resonance imaging in 1976 at UCSF being a case in point.

In this award-winning photograph from the UCSF Magazine, a young mother diagnosed with leukemia during her pregnancy, caresses her newborn son.

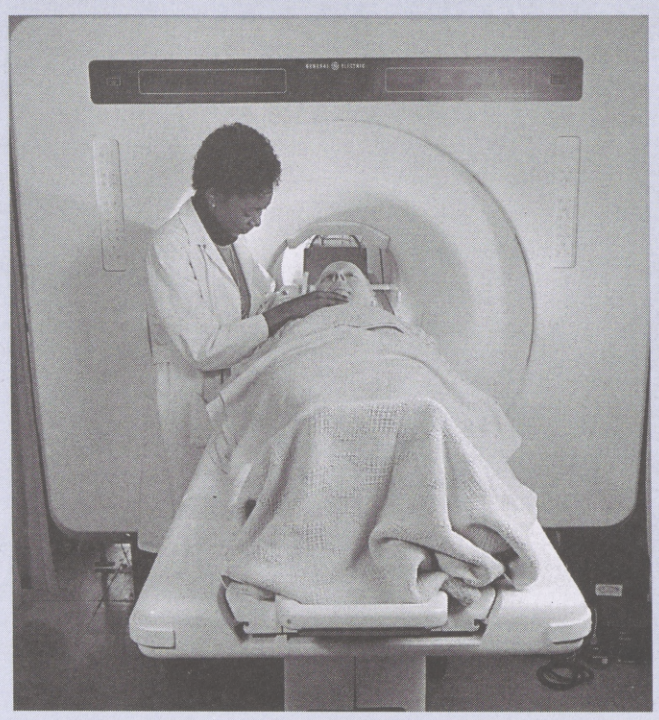
THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA HOSPITAL
-- OBSTETRICAL DEPARTMENT --
If you cannot afford a Private Physician for your confinement you will be welcome at the Hospital Clinic
SLEEPING ACCOMMODATIONS FOR THE BABY

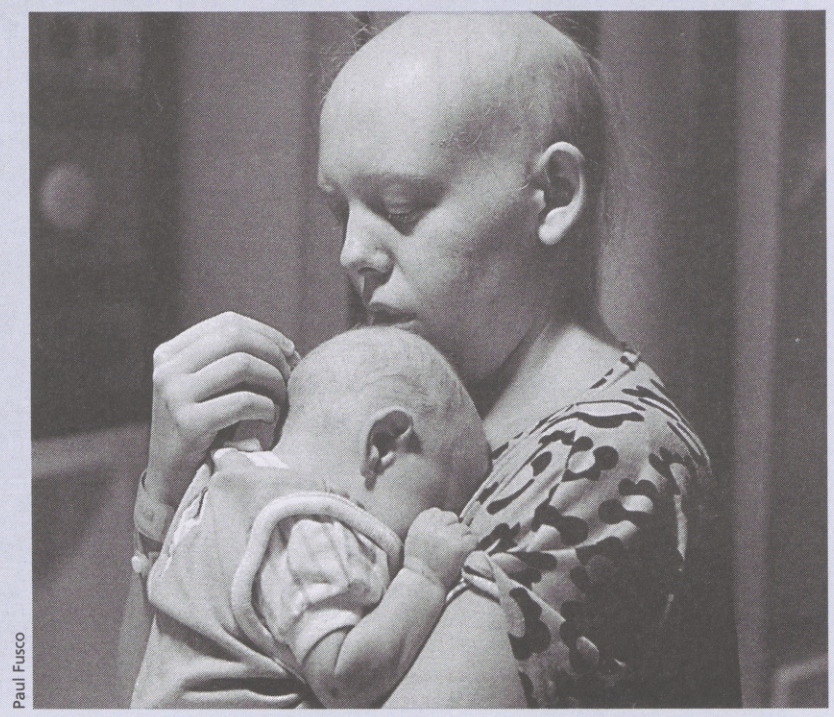


UC News



Ansel Adams





Paul Fusco

Timeline continued

1958 Preclinical sciences return to Parnassus, allowing basic scientists and clinicians to join forces for the first time in 50 years: Increment II of Medical Sciences building.

1959 Stanford Medical School moves to Palo Alto, leaving UCSF as the only partner affiliated with San Francisco General Hospital.

1964 Kidney transplant service began on Jan. 9, when surgeon John Najarian performed the operation. In time, the transplant program becomes the world's largest. UCSF just marked its 5,000th kidney transplant this year. (See page 1.)

1966 Robert Crede creates a new division of ambulatory and community medicine. Construction begins on Health Science towers.

1967 Old Medical School building demolished. Space later becomes Saunders Court. Hormone Research Laboratory moves from Berkeley to Parnassus under the legendary C.H. Li.

1969 William Rutter arrives. His charge: to build a department of biochemistry and biophysics. Also that year, Benson Roe performs UCSF's first heart transplant; John Clements, William Tooley, Roderic Phibbs and George Gregory pioneer work in the treatment of infant respiratory distress syndrome. Ten years later, Clements, Phibbs and colleagues develop synthetic surfactant. These discoveries cut the death rate in half for premature babies with under-developed lungs.

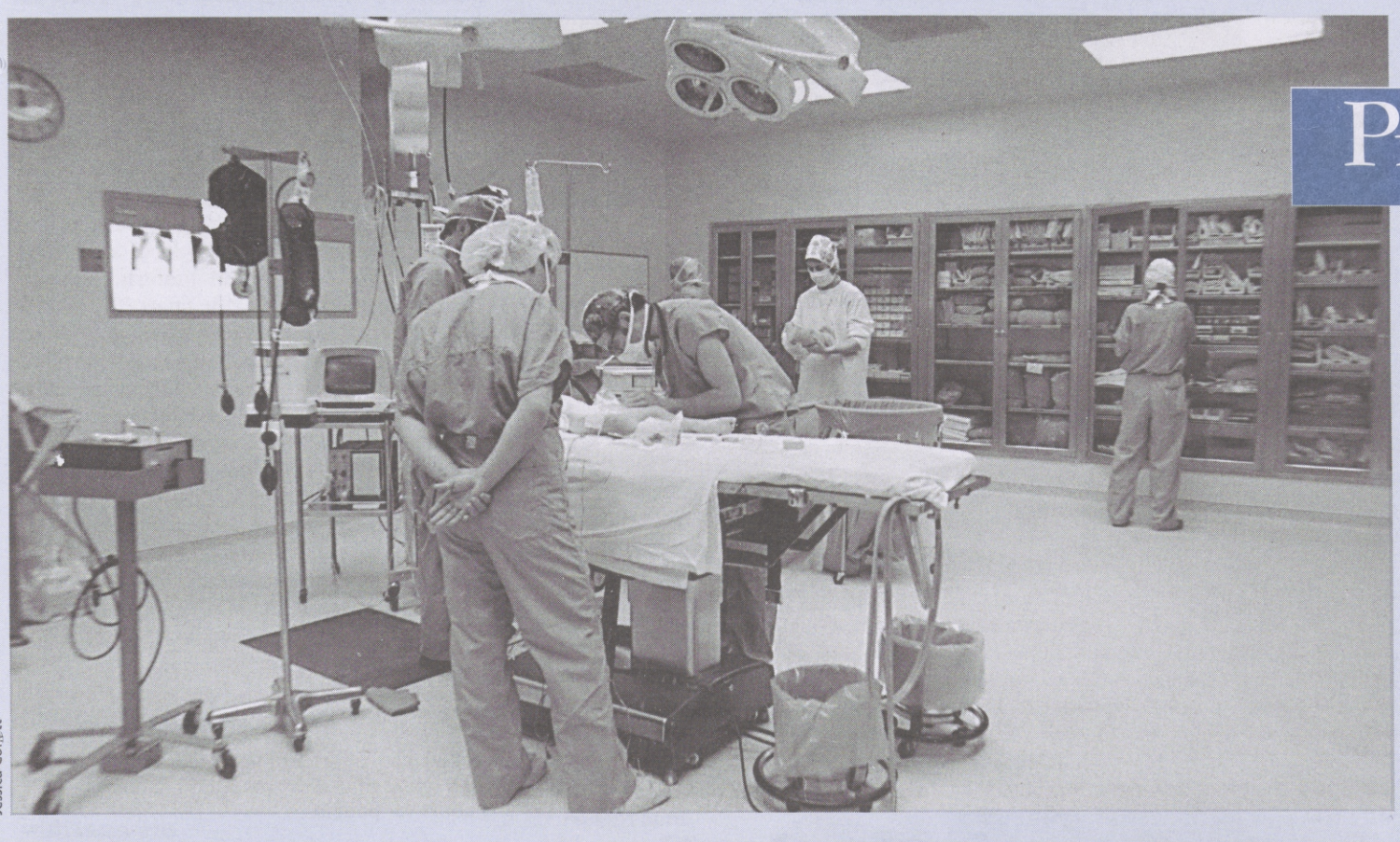
1970 Campus is formally named the University of California San Francisco. Previously, it had been called the UC Medical School.

1973-74 UCSF's Herbert Boyer and Stanford's Stanley Cohen develop recombinant DNA techniques. Joint patent filed in 1974. Ambulatory Care Center opens.

Jessica Corbett

Chris T. Anderson

Progress



Jessica Cowett

FROM TOP, LEFT TO RIGHT:

Surgeons operate on a young patient during the first surgery performed in the operating room at Long Hospital in 1983.

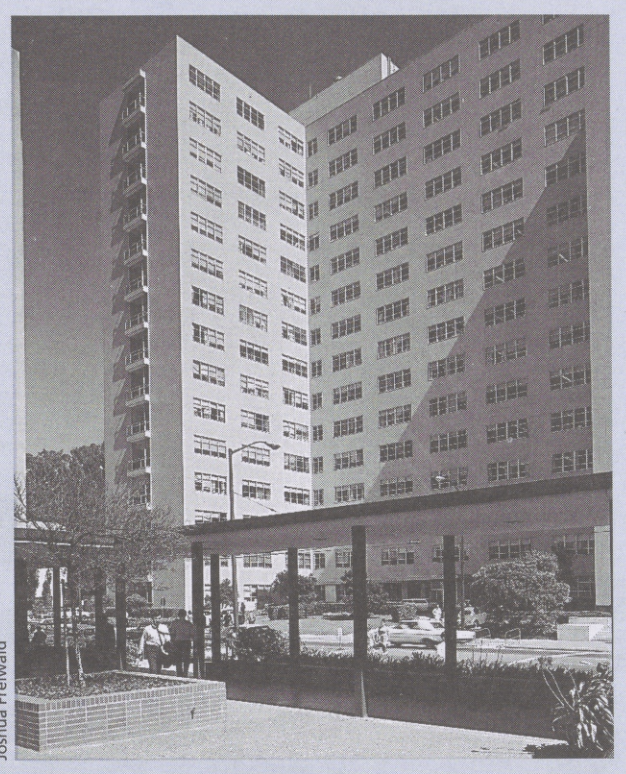
Bill Kerr, former Medical Center director, Helen Ripple, former director of nursing, and others wheel the last patient out of UC Hospital in 1982.

A view of Moffitt Hospital in 1966 from the Millberry Student Union courtyard, which remained much the same until the mid-1980s.

Physician Nancy Milliken addresses a crowd attending the first UCSF women's health 2000, a forum geared to addressing the special needs of women in 1996. Last year, UCSF was recognized as one of six national centers of excellence in women's health by the US Department of Health and Human Services.

Cardiologist Gary Caputo looks at the heart of a patient who underwent a battery of tests as part of the Medical Center's non-invasive evaluation program that includes an ultrafast CT coronary artery calcium screening.

At the 1990 signing of the integration agreement between Mount Zion and the UCSF Medical Center, are, clockwise, Mount Zion Director Marty Diamond, Bill Kerr, former Chancellor Julius Krevans and David Melnick, chair of the Mount Zion Board of Trustees.



Joshua Freiwald

Robert Foothorap

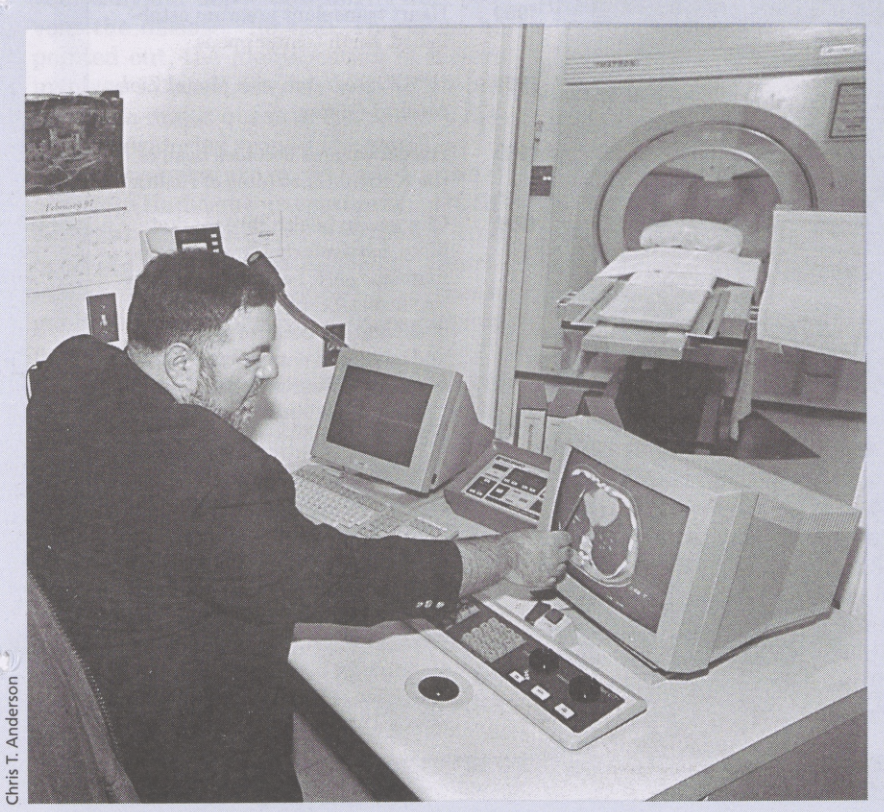
Timeline continued

1976 J. Michael Bishop and Harold Varmus discover genes, called oncogenes, that can lead to cancer — a discovery for which they will receive the Nobel Prize 13 years later. First fetal test for sickle cell anemia and other genetic blood diseases developed by Y.W. Kan and Mitchell Golbus. UCSF files patent on magnetic resonance imaging. UCSF administration accepts limit on building space on Parnassus after neighborhood opposition to proposed campus expansion.

1977 Rutter and colleagues isolate insulin gene for rat insulin and transplant it into bacteria in the first triumph of genetic engineering. Bill Kerr becomes acting director of UCSF Hospitals and Clinics.

1978 Abraham Rudolph and Michael Heyman develop drug therapy for patent ductus arteriosus, a potentially fatal heart defect in premature infants.

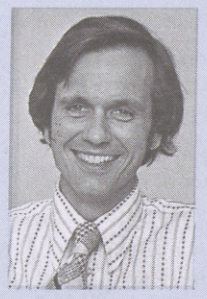
1981 Melvin Scheinman is the first to use catheter ablation on humans to correct heart rhythm problems. Team of Michael Harrison, Mitchell Golbus and Roy Filly performs the first successful in-utero surgical procedure.



Chris T. Anderson

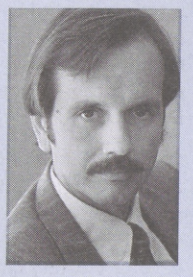
Chronicles of Bill Kerr

Perhaps no one personifies the changing face of health care at the UCSF Medical Center more than Bill Kerr, whose career parallels its history over the last two decades.



Before taking on his new job as Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer at UCSF Stanford Health Care in March, Kerr served as director of the hospitals and clinics since July 1977. He first joined UCSF as an assistant director in 1970.

A native of Chicago, where he graduated from Loyola University, Kerr was 33 when then Chancellor Francis A. Sooy announced that Kerr would direct UC and Moffitt hospitals. Kerr was challenged by the same problems that persist in the health care system today. He blamed the duplication of expensive equipment and services and empty hospital beds as factors driving up health care costs.



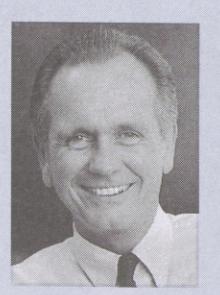
"Too much money is being spent on medical care," he said 20 years ago. "I must balance cost with the quality of care. All administrators face a moral dilemma."

Even then Kerr envisioned combining regional hospitals into a network to create a patient evaluation and referral system to provide optimum care with greater efficiency of fiscal and human resources. Nearly two decades later, he would begin negotiating with Stanford officials about a plan to do just that.

During his tenure at UCSF, Kerr saw significant changes at the Medical Center and achieved national acclaim as a health care expert in the process. His many accomplishments include:

- Transitioning from fee-for-service medicine to Medicare prospective payment, Medi-Cal selective contracting and HMO and PPO commerical contracts;

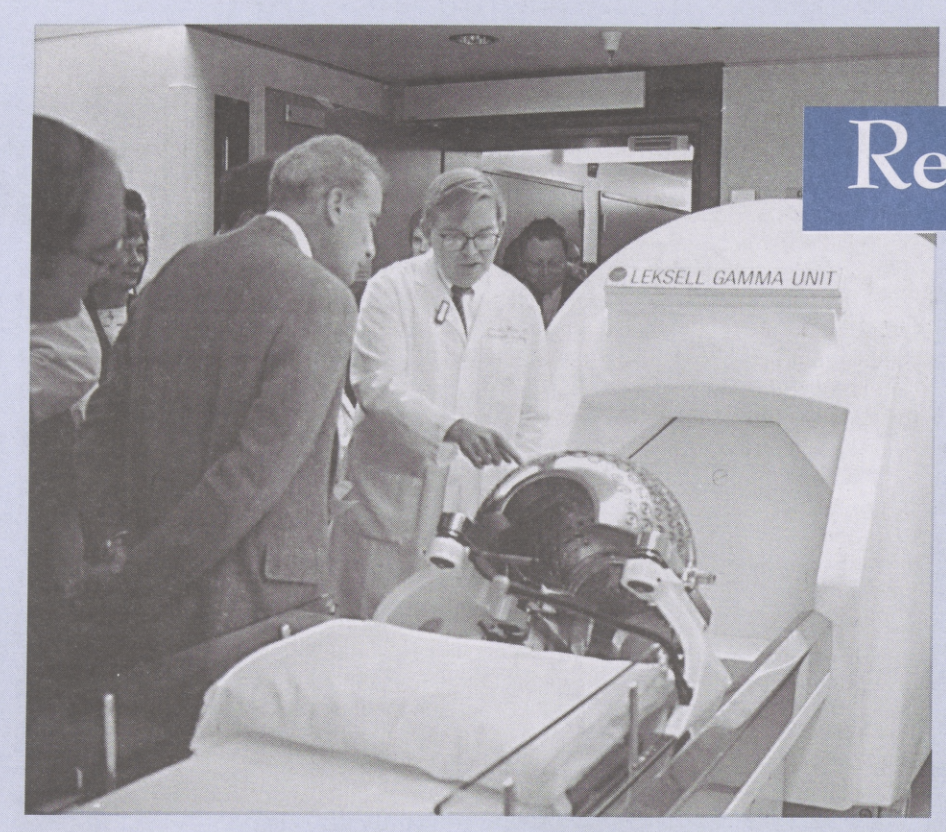
- directing major construction projects and expansion efforts of UCSF's clinical enterprise, such as the Moffitt Hospital modernization project, the acquisition of Mount Zion, the formation of the Brown & Toland Medical Group and the development of a comprehensive cancer center with outpatient and research facilities;
- serving as chair of the Council of Teaching Hospitals of the Association of American Medical Colleges;
- being elected to the Institute of Medicine, National Academy of Sciences;
- and being appointed to the board of governors of the Warren G. Magnuson Clinical Center of the National Institutes of Health in 1996.



Here's a look at the Medical Center annual statistics over Kerr's 20-year career at the helm:

1977
- **BUDGET:** $61 million
- **EMPLOYEES:** 2,400
- **HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS:** 20,000
- **OUTPATIENT VISITS:** 200,000

1997
- **BUDGET:** $450 million
- **EMPLOYEES:** 5,000
- **HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS:** 23,790
- **OUTPATIENT VISITS:** 482,321



Recent Years

FROM TOP, LEFT TO RIGHT:

Radiation oncologist Bill Wara demonstrates the Medical Center's new gamma knife when it arrived on campus, representing a major investment and commitment to offering advanced patient care. The high-tech tool uses radioactive cobalt to help target gamma rays that converge on inoperable tumors without damaging surrounding tissue.

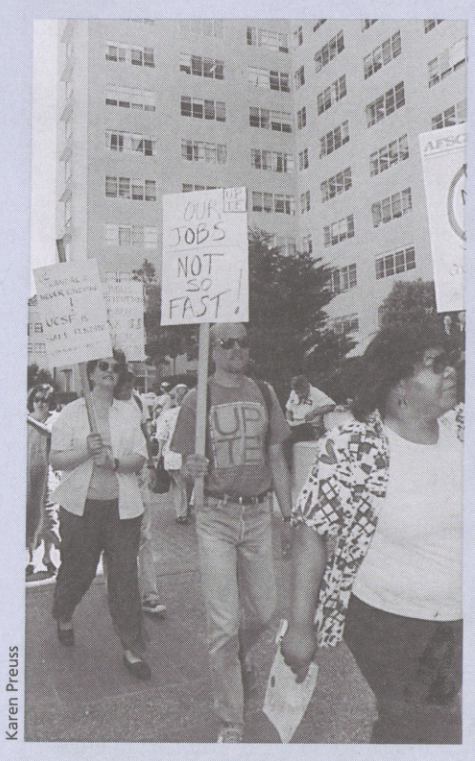
The proposed merger of the UCSF and Stanford medical centers did not sit well with union members, who protested the plan outside the Medical Center in 1996.

Following the opening of the UCSF Cancer Center, construction began of the cancer research building, which opened this past spring.

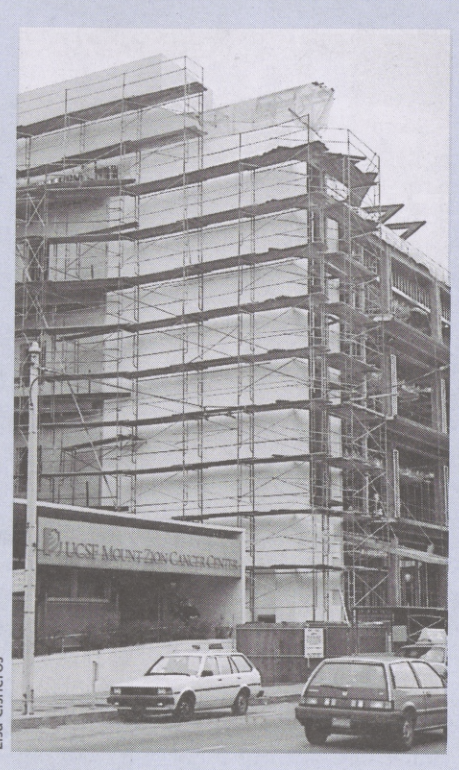
Vicki Kleeman, director of Volunteer Services, leads a group of student volunteers gathering books for patients.

Physicians Mahin Golabi and Charles Epstein, a professor of pediatrics, assess a young patient at the UCSF Genetics Clinic, which he founded 30 years ago. Every year, some 500 families from throughout Northern California are seen in the clinic, which also has served as a training ground for many of the medical geneticists now practicing in the Bay Area and throughout the world.

Editor's note: Special thanks to the history of health sciences department for contributing to this report.



Karen Preuss



Lisa Cisneros

Chris T. Anderson

Timeline continued

1983 Joseph M. Long Hospital dedicated on the Parnassus campus.

1984 Moffitt Hospital remodeled.

1985 Eva Marie Falconer is UCSF's and San Francisco's first in-vitro fertilization baby; two years later her mother gives birth to in-vitro triplets. Hospitals and Clinics administration edges the Chancellor's Office 14 to 13 in a challenge softball game.

1986 FDA approves genetically engineered hepatitis-B vaccine created by William Rutter and colleagues. First issue of what came to be known as Newsbreak/Medsounds unveiled.

1987 New gift shop and ACC lounge open, as does a new outpatient surgery center on the plaza level.

1988 Nancy Ascher arrives to begin liver transplant service. First liver transplant in the Bay Area performed at UCSF that same year.

1989 Heart transplant program established. Birth Center opens.

1990 UCSF integrates with Mount Zion Medical Center.

1993 Harold Varmus becomes head of the National Institutes of Health.

1994 Changes in health care marketplace, particularly the advent of managed care, begin to put academic medical centers at economic disadvantage because of teaching and advanced patient care treatment and research costs.

1997 UC Regents give final approval to the merger of UCSF Medical Center with Stanford Health Systems and Lucile Packard Children's Hospital, setting the stage for the creation of UCSF Stanford Health Care. Cancer Center Research building opens at UCSF/Mount Zion. Stanley Prusiner wins the Nobel Prize for Medicine for his discovery of prions. Last issue of Medsounds produced after a 12-year run.

RESEARCH ROUNDUP

UCSF researchers make great gains in understanding pain

By JEFFREY NORRIS

That burning feeling

Researchers at UCSF have identified a molecular key that sensitizes us to both spicy cuisine and painfully hot temperatures.

The discovery, reported by UCSF researchers led by David Julius and postdoctoral student Michael J. Caterina in the Oct. 23 issue of Nature, should lead to new knowledge about pain and pain relief, they say, as well as to better medications for certain pain syndromes. Some of these chronic pains are already treated with the hot pepper molecule, capsaicin.

The findings might also prove important in developing a better understanding of unusual genetic disorders in which individuals fail to experience pain normally and injure themselves unwittingly and often dangerously as a result.

At the level of molecules and cells, the UCSF researchers have confirmed the appropriateness of our perception that the chili's spiciness is in a sense hot. The key is one particular protein, a kind of gateway into pain-sensing nerve cells that opens when it comes into contact with capsaicin.

The protein, called a vanilloid receptor, is responsible for the spicy sensation that causes the too-hot pepper eater to make a beeline for the water pitcher, and also for the sensation that a steaming hot water bath is painful.

"In the same way that the study of morphine led to the discovery of nerve pathways in the brain that suppress pain, we believe that our having found the target of capsaicin activity will illuminate fundamental mechanisms of pain production," says Julius, an associate professor of cellular and molecular pharmacology at UCSF.

In the early twentieth century, a scientist used humans as guinea pigs to establish his own kind of scale to gauge the relative strengths of hot peppers. However, Julius and Caterina singed no tongues to make their discoveries. Instead of eating chilies in the name of science, they used the peppers in a series of elegant laboratory studies to confirm that the receptor is a vital sentinel for the detection of dangerous heat.

Caterina was able to determine that cell death appeared to result from the opening of the receptor gates in response to a large dose of capsaicin. These results and similar studies that Julius is now conducting may prove useful in probing new and potentially better drugs that would kill pain signals transmitted through the vanilloid receptor without harming neighboring cells, Julius says.

Cannabinoids dull pain

Pain relief may be provided by marijuana-like drugs that exert their influence on brain cells in the same way as the active component of the weed, according to UCSF researchers.

Ian Meng and Barton Manning, both postdoctoral fellows, and Howard Fields, a professor of neurology with the Keck Center for Integrative Neurosciences at UCSF, report that a synthetic marijuana-like drug called WIN 55212 enhances the brain's ability to suppress pain in rats, and probably in humans as well.

WIN 55212 dulls pain by acting on the same pain-suppressing nerve circuits as morphine and other opioid drugs, the most powerful painkillers known, the researchers say. Such drugs may one day be used in combination with opioids or other painkillers to provide better treatment for certain kinds of pain.

Cannabinoids are a class of chemicals that includes tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the component of marijuana responsible for the "high" sought by recreational users.

The brain circuits affected include a key pain-controlling center called the rostral ventromedial medulla. Fields has studied the transmission of pain signals through this network for more than 15 years, identifying many key cellular mechanisms of pain suppression by investigating the actions of opioid drugs on this circuitry.

Now, in studies conducted on rats, Meng has determined that cannabinoids and opioids produce similar changes within cells in the rostral ventromedial medulla.

He found that drugs which block the painkilling effects of morphine do not eliminate the pain relief provided by WIN 55212. Furthermore, cannabinoid-blocking chemicals do not reduce the effectiveness of morphine.

The study of cannabinoids will enable scientists to gain new insights into the brain's mechanisms for suppressing or enhancing pain, Meng says.

The cannabinoid THC, in addition to enhancing mood in some users, is believed to reduce nausea, which may offer a significant advantage over morphine. However, it also impairs mental functioning in a variety of ways.

Key to chronic pain

Chronic bodily pain in the absence of disease or recent injury is a distressingly common medical problem.

The unenviable experience is shared by aging armchair quarterbacks with nagging reminders of the football injuries of youth, by individuals who long ago recovered from surgery but who become pain-sensitive at the surgical site, by amputees stricken with pain that seems to come from long lost "phantom" limbs, and by legions of shingles sufferers, many of whom cannot bear even the pressure of clothing on skin during severe flare-ups.

This "neuropathic" pain arises in nerve pathways that begin in pain-transmitting nerve fibers in skin or deep tissue. Neuropathic pain has been long recognized but little understood, and for many who are afflicted pain relief remains elusive.

But UCSF researchers Allan Basbaum and Annika Malmberg, who study pain and pain relief in rodents, now have identified specific nerve cells, signaling pathways and molecules in the spinal cord that give rise to the phenomenon of neuropathic pain. They described their findings in the Oct. 10 issue of Science.

"What is normally a major pain-provoking stimulus, such as a surgical cut or a significant injury, appears to prime nerves in the spinal cord to more readily transmit pain signals from the same tissue later on," says Basbaum, chairman of the department of anatomy, a research scientist with the W.M. Keck Foundation Center for Integrative Neuroscience at UCSF, and the senior author of the Science study.

Malmberg and Basbaum found that the changes in individual nerve cells that give rise to heightened sensitivity to pain depend on a molecule called protein kinase C-gamma (PKC-gamma). This discovery suggests that PKC-gamma could serve as a target for new drugs that could be used at the time of surgery or in treating accidental injuries to stop the development of this pathological pain sensitivity, or alternatively, to treat neuropathic pain that has already developed, according to Basbaum.

Researchers identify protein that may spur Alzheimer's disease

By ALICE TRINKL

A protein that is normally produced in humans to regulate immune responses and facilitate wound repair has been found to accelerate the development of toxic deposits in the brain, a team of researchers from the J. David Gladstone Institutes, UCSF, and UC San Diego has discovered.

Brains of patients with Alzheimer's disease that show dense deposits of a substance called amyloid around blood vessels also contain high levels of the protein, called transforming growth factor beta-1, or TGF, the researchers reported in the Oct. 9 issue of Nature.

Many previous studies have suggested that abnormal deposition of amyloid, which is made up of protein fragments that can damage and kill brain cells, plays an important role in the development of Alzheimer's disease, said Tony Wyss-Coray, Gladstone staff research scientist, UCSF instructor of neurology, and co-author of the study.

"An increasing number of scientists believe that treatments that could prevent amyloid deposition might also prevent the disease," he said. Therefore, he pointed out, the identification of factors involved in brain amyloid deposition has become a major quest in Alzheimer's disease laboratories around the world.

The investigators, led by Lennart Mucke, Gladstone investigator, UCSF associate professor of neurology, and head of the Gladstone Molecular Neurobiology Program, developed TGF transgenic mice to prove the disease-causing potential of TGF.

Transgenic mice are mice that have been genetically engineered or altered by the insertion of foreign genes. These mice produce foreign gene products or large amounts of normal proteins, Mucke said, allowing scientists to study their effects on particular cells, organs, or the whole animal. The "TGF mice" were genetically engineered to overproduce TGF in their brains. As they aged, they developed brain amyloid deposits that closely resembled those found in humans with Alzheimer's disease, Mucke said.

To tighten the link between their experimental findings and the human disease even further, the Gladstone investigators collaborated with Lisa McConlogue, and her group at Athena Neurosciences in South San Francisco, to develop transgenic mice that produce human amyloid proteins in the brain. By breeding TGF transgenic mice with human amyloid transgenic mice, the scientists were able to study mice that produce both TGF and human amyloid. They found that TGF accelerated the formation of human amyloid deposits in the brains of these doubly transgenic mice, Mucke said.

"Taken together, these results strongly suggest that TGF can effectively initiate or accelerate the deposit of toxic amyloid proteins in the brain," he said. "Our study has added TGF and the mediators of its actions to the list of potential therapeutic targets in Alzheimer's disease. There is now more hope than ever that better treatments for this frightening disease will be forthcoming in the near future."

A co-author of the study along with Wyss-Coray and Mucke, is Eliezer Masliah, UC San Diego associate professor of neurosciences and pathology.

Artworks keeps elders creative and connected to community

By DALE MARTIN

It's been years since actress Arlene Francis has performed on stage or screen, but, as she recently turned 90, she continues to express her abundant creativity through art — no small feat for a person with Alzheimer's disease.

Known for her work in film, on Broadway, and as a longtime panelist on TV's "What's My Line," the vivacious actress worked on a New York radio interview show as recently as 1990. For the past 11 years, however, Francis has also battled Alzheimer's and is now in advanced stages of the disease. Through it all, she has found the courage to create through Artworks, a program of the UCSF-affiliated Goldman Institute on Aging, which brings professional artists together with older homebound adults in an effort to keep them contributing to their community.

Despite the fact that the disease has almost totally taken away her ability to speak, Francis continues to paint.

In working with elderly homebound people and those in adult day-care centers, Artworks artists do not focus on the student's illness or approach the work as therapy. "Our artists attempt to transcend the barriers that result from age, cultural differences, language and health," says Jeff Chapline, Artworks program director.

For the past three years, Francis has worked with artist Nadine Gay, creating a large body of lively work in watercolors, pastels, collage and fabric. "The creative process has helped Ms. Francis to stay focused in the present and has opened for her a new avenue of expression," Gay says. "Her work illustrates her love of life and her spirited nature."

Peter Gabel, 50, has had both the anguish of watching his mother move into advanced stages of Alzheimer's and the joy of seeing how art has helped her maintain function.

"Apart from the love of those around her, no factor has played a more important role in her spiritual improvement than the work she had done with artist Nadine Gay through the Artworks project," he says.

The president of New College of California, Gabel has since encouraged Gay to teach an undergraduate course at the college for those interested in working with elders suffering from Alzheimer's.

Artworks is one of 16 programs of the Goldman Institute on Aging (IOA), an affiliation of UCSF. The Artworks program provides workshop, instruction and performance opportunities for more than 500 older adults annually who are either homebound or attend one of 11 Adult Day Health Centers or residential homes in San Francisco. Funded by the California Arts Council, the program was started in 1978.

Arlene Francis

In recognition of the program, an Arlene Francis Fund has been established which will provide Artworks services for groups and individuals with Alzheimer's disease and related illnesses. Donations in honor of Arlene Francis can be sent to Artworks, Goldman Institute on Aging, 3330 Geary Blvd., 2nd Floor East, San Francisco, CA 94118.

Oct. 28–Nov. 3, 1997

28 Tuesday

MISSION BAY FORUM: The Public Affairs Department presents a campuswide forum, noon-1 p.m., HSW 303, to discuss and critique the proposed architectural plans for UCSF's next campus at Mission Bay. The plans are also on exhibit in the Medical Sciences lobby, as well as at the American Institute of Architects, 130 Sutter St.

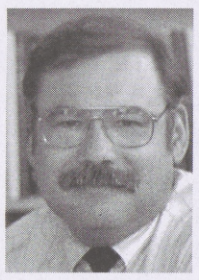
MEDITATION CLASS: Conducted by the Brahma Kumaris Meditation Center and sponsored by the Institute of Healing Arts and Sciences, 12-1 p.m., N 617. Free. Call 584-4416 to register.

BOYER FUND SEMINAR: Spyros Artavanis-Tsakonas, department of cell biology & biology at Howard Hughes Medical Institute, presents *Notch Signaling,* 4 p.m., HSW 301. Sponsored by the Herbert W. Boyer Fund. Call 476-8782.

29 Wednesday

NEWSBREAK DEADLINE FOR NEXT BIWEEKLY ISSUE

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE EXHIBIT: The rape prevention education program presents *The Silent Witness Project: A National Touring Exhibit,* 11 a.m.-2 p.m., MZ cafeteria. Call 476-5223.



Inui

CREDE LECTURESHIP: Thomas Inui, the 1997 Robert H. Crede Visiting Lecturer, presents *Appreciating the Complexity of Scientific Advance in Primary Care: Caring for a patient with sickle cell anemia,* noon, SFGH Carr auditorium. Call 206-6188.

BROWN BAG LECTURE: Kevin Grumbach, associate professor, Family & Community Medicine and research director, Center for the Health Professions, presents *Too Many Specialists, Too Little Diversity, Poor Distribution: Are medical schools producing the types of physicians required to serve the diverse population of California?* 12:10-1 p.m., HSW 300. Sponsored by Public Service Programs. Free. Call 476-4394.

GOSPEL CHOIR AT UCSF: Experience the joy of soulful song at this performance, 7:30 p.m., Cole Hall. Tickets are available at the door. Call the Arts & Performances hotline at 476-6932 or visit the website at http://www.artsperf.ucsf.edu/ArtsPerf/apmain.html

ARTS & PERFORMANCES: *Psycho,* rated NR, 6 p.m., Cole Hall Cinema. Today's film at yesterday's price — enjoy a special pre-Halloween showing for 25 cents. Call 476-6932 or check the website at http://www.artsperf.ucsf.edu/ArtsPerf/apmain.html

31 Friday

HAPPY HALLOWEEN!

HALLOWEEN CARNIVALS: Millberry Programs & Services and EMPACT! are hosting various Halloween carnivals: 11 a.m.-1 p.m., MCB courtyard; 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., MU gym; 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Mount Zion; 12-1 p.m., Executive Park, Oyster Point and SFGH cafeteria. Call the EMPACT! hotline at 476-6932.

WELLNESS LECTURE: Corey Weinstein, author of "Healing Homeopathic Remedies," presents *Treat Yourself to Homeopathy,* 1 p.m., HSW 300. Learn the basics of homeopathic practice and prescriptions in the home. Free. Call 206-8610.

1 Saturday

DENTAL SEMINAR: Karen Baker, associate professor, department of oral and maxillofacial surgery, University of Iowa School of Dentistry, presents *Oral Health Products for Home Use: What Should You Recommend?,* 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Cole Hall. Sponsored by Continuing Dental Education. Call 476-1101.

Chris T. Anderson

UCSF Gospel Choir will perform Wednesday evening at Cole Hall.

30 Thursday

HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL: Millberry Programs & Services and EMPACT! host a Halloween carnival, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Laurel Heights Chancellor's Conference Room.

CREDE LECTURESHIP: Thomas Inui, the 1997 Robert H. Crede Visiting Lecturer, presents *Building an 'Academic HMO' in a Competitive Medical Marketplace: Another instance of problem-based learning at Harvard Medical School,* noon, N 225. Call 206-6188.

LIBRARY WORKSHOP: The library's multimedia development lab offers a workshop for faculty members only, noon-1:30 p.m., S 165. The workshop is an introduction to technology in education and educational uses of the Web. Cost $10. Call 476-3766.

3 Monday

MERGER SUPPORT GROUP: The Faculty Staff Assistance Program and the Human Resources transition team present an informal drop-in support group for employees affected by the UCSF/Stanford Health Care merger, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., MCB, Room 131. Group facilitator is Lois Goodwill. Employees are welcome to drop in for a brief visit on any Monday. Call 502-2407.

SEMINAR: Frank Szoka, professor, pharmacology, presents *Polymers in Gene Delivery,* 3:30-5:30 p.m., S 214. Sponsored by the Intercampus Group in Bioengineering at the San Francisco and Berkeley campuses. Call 476-5151.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Special program for visually impaired

The blind and those with low vision are invited to UCSF to attend a special forum from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 1, in the main foyer of the ACC.

The forum will be an educational lecture entitled, "Know Your Eyes," presented by William Good, a clinician scientist with the Smith-Kettlewell Eye Research Institute. Good will take participants on a "tour of the eye and how it works." The talk will be followed by an open discussion.

Sponsored by the UCSF department of ophthalmology, the forum is one of a series of programs designed to help the visually impaired cope with the problems that arise in day-to-day living and are open to friends and family as well. For more information on the forums, call professor Frances Neer at 626-5313.

HIV symposium

The Center for AIDS Research and AIDS Clinical Research Center and The Gladstone Institute of Virology & Immunology will hold a symposium on Thursday, Nov. 6, from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., in Cole Hall. Researchers will share state-of-the-art knowledge regarding the HIV vaccine development and the biology of HIV transmission across epithelial surfaces, behavioral interventions to diminish the spread of HIV and new therapeutic approaches to the treatment of acutely infected individuals. Cost is $35. For registration information, call 255-1297.

Alzheimer's forum

The UCSF-Fresno Alzheimer's Disease Center is sponsoring a two-day symposium on "Dementia and Hospice: Shared Issues, Comprehensive Management," Friday and Saturday, Nov. 7 and 8 at the DoubleTree Hotel, 1055 Van Ness Ave., Fresno.

The program is designed for family and general practice physicians, psychologists, oncologists, cardiologists, internists, nurses, clergy, social workers, administrators of long-term care facilities and other personnel who assist in comprehensive care.

The cost for attending one day's session is $75 for physicians and $55 for UCSF faculty, retired physicians and others. The cost for attending both days is $135 for physicians and $110 for others. The fee for students is $25. For more information, call the UCSF-Fresno Office of Postgraduate Education at 209/225-6100, Ext. 5419.

Facts on yawning

Francis Schiller, department of the history of health sciences, will speak on "Yawning? Fact and History," Wednesday, Nov. 12, at 8 p.m., in S 214. All are welcome. Sponsored by the Bay Area History of Medicine Club. For more information, call Nancy Zinn at 753-8483.

UCSF Orchestra to begin ninth season on Nov. 15

The UCSF Orchestra, under the direction of Jeremy Swerling, will begin its ninth season with a pair of concerts on Saturday, Nov. 15, at 8 p.m., in the MU gym. The concert will feature the Concerto for Violin and Cello by Johannes Brahms in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of his death. The featured artists will be two members of the Omaha Symphony, Margo Romig-Motychka, violin and Marl Motycka, cello. The remainder of the program will include Beethooven's "Fidelio" overture, Debussy's "Afternoon of a Faun," and Grieg's "Peer Gynt Suite No. 1." Tickets are $7 for general admission; $5 for UCSF staff and faculty, and $3 for students. For more information, call 476-2675.

Open enrollment time

The Benefits Office hosts open enrollment fairs for UCSF faculty and staff on Monday, Nov. 17, from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., in Millberry Union and from 2 to 4 p.m. for annuitants, at the Faculty/Alumni House at 745 Parnassus Ave. This is an opportunity to enroll or de-enroll from UC-sponsored medical, dental and vision plans, as well as change participation in the Dependent Care Assistance Program (DepCare) and the Tax Savings on Insurance Premiums (TIP) program. Employees may also transfer to a different medical or dental plan, or add eligible family members to their current plans.

Open enrollment begins on Saturday, Nov. 1 and end Friday, Nov. 21. All changes will become effective January 1, 1998.

Dean's research seminar

Dean Sheppard, along with Rich Locksley and David Corry will present "The Conundrum of Asthma," Monday, Nov. 17, at 3:30 p.m., in N 225. For further information, call Diana Naisby at 476-2342.

Holiday crafts fair

EMPACT! presents their 8th annual holiday crafts fair, Thursday, Dec. 4, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., in MU gym and conference center. This fair features handmade crafts created by UCSF employees and community artists. For more information, call EMPACT! at 476-2675.

Tuberculosis update

Experts will present an update on the epidemiology, prevention, diagnosis and treatment of TB, on Wednesday, Dec. 10, from 12:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the Laurel Heights conference center. Pre-registration is required and course applications are due by Monday, Dec. 1. Sponsored by the Francis J. Curry National Tuberculosis Center. For more information, call 502-4600.

Molecular biologist to give Gladstone lecture

The Gladstone Distinguished Lecture in Neuroscience will be presented on Thursday, Dec. 11 by national expert Richard Axel. He will speak at 4 p.m. in the Carr Auditorium at SFGH on "The Molecular Biology of Smell."

Axel is Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator, Higgins Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biophysics, and professor of pathology, Columbia University.

A molecular biologist who now applies the techniques of recombinant DNA and molecular genetics to problems in neurobiology, Axel has most recently focused on the molecular biology of perception and particularly of olfaction.

Mammals possess an olfactory system of extraordinary discriminatory power. Axel's elegant analysis of the patterns of expression of the odorant receptor genes established that each neuron contains a single receptor type from an extremely large family of possible receptors and projects its axons to a small number of glomerulli in the olfactory bulb. These observations support a model in which odor discrimination is a function of the spacial organization of the olfactory neural circuitry.

A member of the of the National Academy of Sciences and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and recipient of numerous research awards, Axel received an AB (magna cum laude) from Columbia University and an MD from the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine.